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Oceans and the law of the sea

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Letter dated 29 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to the fact that the Republic of Turkey issued, through Navarea III, a navigational warning numbered 401/13 (see annex I) announcing the launch of seismic survey operations from 5 September to 18 November 2013 in an area which includes part of the exclusive economic zone and of the continental shelf of the Republic of Cyprus. A map which depicts the reserved area is also attached hereto as annex II.

The Republic of Cyprus considers that, with this action, Turkey violates customary international law as expressed in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and in particular in articles 56 and 77, which clearly grant to the Republic of Cyprus exclusive sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring and exploiting natural resources of the seabed and subsoil of its exclusive economic zone and continental shelf respectively.

Moreover, this action of the Republic of Turkey constitutes violation of the exclusive economic zone and continental shelf legislation of the Republic of Cyprus.

It is recalled that the Republic of Cyprus proclaimed its exclusive economic zone in 2004 through the enactment of the Exclusive Economic Zone Law (Law No. 64(I)/2004). Furthermore, with regard to its continental shelf Cyprus enacted the Continental Shelf Law (Law No. 8/74). I should therefore be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 76 and of the Security Council and have it published in the next Law of the Sea Bulletin.

(*Signed*) Nicholas **Emiliou**

13-53639 (E) 311013

Please recycle

Annex I to the letter dated 29 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

NAVAREA III warnings (In force)

1 Item

NAVAREA III 401/13

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN SEA — TURKEY

1.- Seismic survey operations by "BARBAROS HAYREDDIN PASA", M/V "BRAVO SUPPORTER" and M/V "DEEP SUPPORTER" from 05 SEP13 to 18 NOV13, in area bounded by:

36-39.3N 034-36.6E

36-26.8N 034-19.6E

36-14.7N 034-33.0E

36-10.2N 034-26.9E

35-57.3N 034-41.3E

36-19.3N 035-11.3E

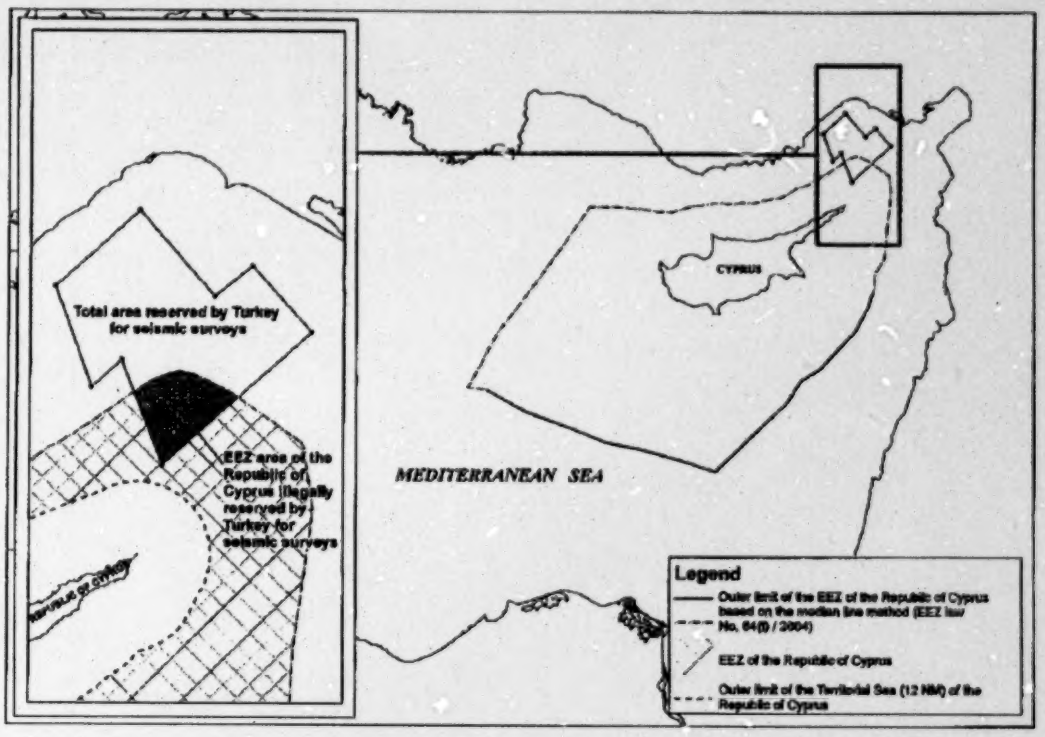
36-30.2N 034-59.4E

36-25.2N 034-51.8E.

5 NM berth requested.

2.- Cancel this message on 182359 UTC NOV13.

Annex II to the letter dated 29 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General


Total area reserved by Turkey for seismic surveys
EEZ area of the Republic of Cyprus illegally reserved by Turkey for seismic surveys
Mainland of Turkey
CYPRUS
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
Legend
Outer limit of the EEZ of the Republic of Cyprus based on the median line method (EEZ law No. 64(I) / 2004)
EEZ of the Republic of Cyprus
Outer limit of the Territorial Sea (12 NM) of the Republic of Cyprus